now. On behalf of the people of Nemmara, may I request you, Sir, when passing these Rules to make special provision to redress the disabilities imposed on the transport of firewood at an early date?

(d) **Medical.**—Sir, our Sirkar is responsible for the health of its subjects, and is expected to keep them in the normal condition. I shall deal first with the indigenous systems of treatment. Our State had a number of Ayurvedic physicians under it. This department was abolished during the time of Mr. (now Sir) A. R. Banerji, in spite of strong public protest from all parts of the State. The majority of the population do not appreciate the Western System of Medicine and rules of Sanitation. In recent years a change has come even among the English educated people. The fashionable expression of contempt and dislike they exhibited towards the indigenous systems of treatment is practically dying out, and faith and belief in the system are strongly taking root in them. The masses still rely on the indigenous systems. I do not want at this stage to compare the merits and demerits of these systems with those of the Western systems. I have placed before this House my views on the subject, when the resolution for the establishment of a Central Ayurvedic Hospital by the State was discussed. What I now wish to impress upon the House is that the Western System touches only the fringe of the population. The Government, as far back as 1913, realised the need for the re-establishment of Ayurveda in the State; in 1923 the Darbar said that the matter was receiving careful consideration. In answer to a question of mine this year the Government said: "a scheme for the development of Ayurveda is under consideration" But this year the Tattamangalam Ayurvedic Dispensary was ordered to be closed. Sir, in 1913 this matter came before the Government; since 1923 the Darbar have been carefully considering the whole subject; and in 1926, the Tattamangalam Ayurvedic Dispensary was abolished. From this we can very well infer what sort of consideration the Government was bestowing on this important subject. I make a special appeal to you, Sir, on behalf of the indigenous systems of medicine, to extend support to them in view of the fact that they minister to the medical needs of nearly 90 per cent of our people who are quite unprovided for by any official medical aid. I urge on the Government to make an immediate declaration of policy at least to treat both the Western and the indigenous systems on an equal footing.

The Trichur Hospital.—A word about the present condition of the Civil Hospital at Trichur. This being situated in

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the centre of the State where patients can easily come from all the four corners, it should have all possible facilities. The popularity and the usefulness of that institution is clearly seen from the remarks recorded in the Visitors' Book by the retired Maharaja. His Highness says:—"there were 80 patients in the Hospital. For want of room some of them had to be kept in the verandah—Dr. Rao has been able to purchase several things useful for the Hospital from a fund to which several people have voluntarily contributed. (2—6—26.)"

The present condition of the buildings is far from satisfactory. To the benefit of those members who have not visited that Hospital, I shall say a few words about the present buildings. The Operation Room (a separate block) is situated between the two main parallel blocks, and connected with them by covered pathways, thus converting the Operation Room into a thoroughfare for all persons—patients, visitors, medical men, Hospital menials, etc., who want to go from one block to the other. Sir, in this rapidly advancing state of Surgical era, it is a disgrace to the State to have such an unscientific Operation Theatre. Further, the two main blocks stand in great need of very urgent repairs and substantial structural alterations. I visited the Hospital recently; it has more the appearance of a choultry than a hospital. The Government have allotted Rs. 500 0 for repairs alone—this, taken with the remarks of His Highness in the Visitors' Book, viz., Dr. Rao has been able to purchase several things useful for the Hospital from a fund to which several people have voluntarily contributed—clearly shows culpable neglect on the part of the Government for years together. Our General Hospital swallows a considerable sum of money year after year for repairs, demolitions, very many structural alterations, and new constructions, etc. The only section of the Trichur Hospital that is in good order is the mortuary. With this exception I have no hesitation to condemn the present state of the buildings. May I ask the Government why this step-motherly treatment to the Trichur Civil Hospital, Sir?

(e) **The Excise Department.**—I would emphasise the great disability that the poor toddy tappers—specially in the case of the palmyra tappers—of the State are labouring under. The imposition of a license tax for sweet toddy tapping—not done in the Madras Presidency—acts as a set-back on the cottage industry of jaggery making. To give an impetus to it and to show some consideration to the poor tappers, the present licensing system may be done away with In answer to a question of mine, the Government then promised to view the

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